

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(currently amended)** A foundation pile for providing support to a slab an above-ground structure, said foundation pile comprising:

a generally cylindrical solid body having,

a top end wall,

a bottom end wall adapted for providing load bearing capacity, and

a sidewall extending sidewall extending between said top end wall and said bottom end wall, said sidewall having a ridge extending generally about said sidewall and integral to said sidewall, wherein said ridge has an offset surface extending generally outward from a surface of said sidewall, said offset surface providing additional load bearing capacity and being generally unopposed by another offset surface between said top end wall and said bottom end wall[[.]] ; and

said foundation pile engaged with said slab.

2. **(previously presented)** The foundation pile of claim 1, wherein said ridge is a spiral ridge extending in a generally downward spiral direction about said sidewall.

3. **(previously presented)** The foundation pile of claim 1, wherein said sidewall includes a second ridge extending generally about said sidewall.

4. **(previously presented)** The foundation pile of claim 3, wherein said generally solid body is a precast concrete body formed to include section halves, said section halves mutually facing one another in an offsetting manner to create said offset surface and a second offset surface that form said first and second ridges.

5. **(canceled)**

6. **(previously presented)** The foundation pile of claim 1, wherein said ridge extends spirally substantially the entire distance between said top end wall to said bottom end wall.
7. **(currently amended)** The foundation pile of claim 2 ~~claim 1~~, wherein said body includes a second spiral ridge, each said ridge traversing horizontally about said sidewall an arc distance of about 90°.
8. **(currently amended)** The foundation pile of claim 2 ~~claim 1~~, wherein said body includes a second spiral ridge, each said ridge with offset surfaces, said offset surfaces providing a load bearing surface that is between about .35 to .55 times the load bearing surface of said bottom end wall.
9. **(canceled)**
10. **(canceled)**
11. **(canceled)**
12. **(canceled)**
13. **(canceled)**
14. **(canceled)**
15. **(canceled)**
16. **(canceled)**
17. **(canceled)**
18. **(currently amended)** A foundation pile for providing support to a slab ~~an above-ground structure~~, said foundation pile apparatus comprising:

a cylindrical concrete body having

a top end wall,

a bottom end wall adapted for providing load bearing capacity, and

a sidewall extending between said top end wall and said bottom end wall, said sidewall having two spiral ridges extending generally about said sidewall and integral to said sidewall, wherein each said spiral ridge has an offset surface extending generally outward from a surface of said sidewall, said offset surface providing additional load bearing capacity, and being generally unopposed by another offset surface between said top end wall and said bottom end wall[.] ; and

said foundation pile engaged with said slab.

19. **(previously presented)** The foundation pile of claim 18, wherein said concrete body is a precast concrete body formed to include two vertical section halves, said section halves mutually facing one another in an offsetting manner to create said offset surfaces that form said spiral ridges.

20. **(previously presented)** The foundation pile of claim 19, wherein each said spiral ridge extends spirally downward about said sidewall and traverses horizontally about said sidewall an arc distance of about 90°, and wherein each said offset surfaces together has a load bearing surface of greater than about .33 times the load bearing surface of said bottom end wall.

21. **(canceled)**

22. **(new)** A foundation pile supporting a building, said foundation pile comprising:

a generally cylindrical solid body having,

a top end wall,

a bottom end wall adapted for providing load bearing capacity,

a sidewall extending between said top end wall and said bottom end wall, said sidewall having a ridge extending generally about said sidewall and integral to said sidewall, wherein said ridge has an offset surface extending generally outward from a surface of said sidewall, said offset surface providing additional load bearing capacity; and

said foundation pile engaged with said building.

23. **(new)** The foundation pile of claim 22, wherein said ridge is a spiral ridge extending in a generally downward spiral direction about said sidewall.
24. **(new)** The foundation pile of claim 22, wherein said sidewall includes a second ridge extending generally about said sidewall.
25. **(new)** The foundation pile of claim 24, wherein said generally solid body is a precast concrete body formed to include section halves, said section halves mutually facing one another in an offsetting manner to create said offset surface and a second offset surface that form said first and second ridges.
26. **(new)** The foundation pile of claim 22, wherein said ridge extends spirally substantially the entire distance between said top end wall to said bottom end wall.
27. **(new)** The foundation pile of claim 23, wherein said body includes a second spiral ridge, each said ridge traversing horizontally about said sidewall an arc distance of about 90°.
28. **(new)** The foundation pile of claim 23, wherein said body includes a second spiral ridge, each said ridge with offset surfaces, said offset surfaces providing a load bearing surface that is between about .35 to .55 times the load bearing surface of said bottom end wall.